

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 08080 251447Z

41

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 SAB-01

OMB-01 NEAE-00 (ISO) W

----- 051635

P R 251405Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4963

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS BEIRUT 8080

USIA FOR IOP/M, IPS, IBS, INA

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, XF, LE

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - U.S. MIDEAST DIPLOMACY

1. SUMMARY. BEIRUT PRESS OF PAST FEW DAYS COMMENTS ON CONTINUING AMBIGUITY OF AMERICAN POSITION, ON SYRIAN FONMIN'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON, AND ON REPORTED ISRAELI MAP OF PROPOSED TERRITORIAL SETTLEMENT. PRO-SOVIET AND PRO-EGYPTIAN "ASH-SHA'S" DESCRIBES EXPECTED ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS OF U.S. REASSESSMENT OF MIDEAST POLICY AS "DECISIVE LAST CHANCE" FOR U.S. AND FOR PRO-AMERICAN POLICIES OF PRESIDENT SADAT. LEADING LEFTIST PRO-PLO "AL-MUHARRIR" CRITICIZES ARAB ADOPTION OF PRO-AMERICAN POLICY BEFORE UNEQUIVOCAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS OF REASSESSMENT. PRO-SYRIAN "ASH-SHARQ" EMPHASIZES THAT FONMIN KHADDAM WENT TO WASHINGTON TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT SYRIA WOULD ABANDON NO PART OF GOLAN, WHILE PRO-IRAQI "AD-DUSTUR" BELIEVES HIS VISIT WAS DESIGNED TO PROBE U.S.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 08080 251447Z

ON ISRAELI INTENTIONS AND TO COMMUNICATE SYRIAN READINESS

TO CONTINUE PARTIAL SETTLEMENT APPROACH IF U.S. ANSWER WAS SATISFACTORY. PLO ORGAN "FILASTIN ATH-THAWRA" DESCRIBES REPORTED ISRAELI MAP OF PROPOSED TERRITORIAL SETTLEMENT AS INDICATIVE OF NATURE OF U.S.-SPONSORED PARTIAL SETTLEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. COLUMNIST MUHAMMAD NAQQASH WRITES IN PRO-SOVEIT, PRO-EGYPTIAN "ASH-SHA'B" (JUNE 24): "WE BELIEVE THAT SADAT'S BET ON AMERICAN GOODWILL AND ABILITY TO ACHIEVE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT HAS ALMOST ENDED. WITH END OF KHADDAM'S VISIT, PRESIDENT FORD AND SECSTATE KISSINGER HAVE ENDED SO-CALLED REASSESSMENT OF AMERICAN MIDEAST POLICY.... THEY SHOULD NOW SHOW AMERICA'S CARDS ALL AT ONCE, SO THAT CAIRO AND EVERY OTHER ARAB CAPITAL CAN DEFINE ITS POSITION.... IT IS OBVIOUS THAT IF AMERICA DOES NOT SHOW ITS CARDS AND ANNOUNCE AT LEAST ITS DISPLEASURE OVER ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE, ARABS WILL RIGHTLY BE ABSOLVED OF ANY HOPES THEY PLACED ON U.S.... PRESIDENT FORD AND MR. KISSINGER ARE IN FOREFRONT OF AMERICANS WHO SOMEHOW UNDERSTAND ARAB CAUSE. IF THEY FAIL, NONE AFTER THEM WILL SUCCEED."

3. NAQQASH ALSO WRITES IN "ASH-SHA'B" (JUNE 25): "WE MUST WAIT TWO DAYS TO HEAR WHAT PRESIDENT FORD WILL HAVE TO SAY RE RESULTS OF HIS TALKS AND RE 'REASSESSMENT' OF U.S. MIDEAST POLICY.... HIS STATEMENT WILL BE DECISIVE FOR BOTH ARABS AND ISRAELIS.... PRESIDENT SADAT SAID IN HIS LATEST STATEMENT THAT HE... HAD ADOPTED POSITIVE ATTITUDE RE AMERICA. NATURALLY, HE IS AWAITING RESPONSE.... IF NO RESPONSE IS FORTHCOMING, THIS WILL MEAN THAT IT CAN NEVER COME AND THAT, BECUASE OF ATTITUDE OF CONGRESS AND INFLUENCE OF JEWS, AMERICA CANNOT RESTRAIN ISRAEL."

4. COLUMNIST IBRAHIM MIR'I WRITES IN LEADING LEFTIST PRO-PLO "AL-MUHARRIR" (JUNE 25): "WE SHOULD RAISE QUESTIONS RE WHAT PRESENT ARAB BETTING ON AMERICAN POLICY CAN ACHIEVE, ESPECIALLY SINCE WE DO NOT YET KNOW... WHETHER U.S. IS PROTECTING ISRAEL WITHIN ITS BORDERS OR ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ARAB LANDS.... IF AMERICAN ATTITUDE TOWARD MIDEAST CRISIS IS NOT DEFINED CLEARLY AND UNEQUIVOCALLY IN TWO WEEKS, WHEN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BEIRUT 08080 251447Z

REASSESSMENT OF U.S. MIDEAST POLICY IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED..., ARAB STATES WILL HAVE PLAYED LOSING CARD WITH U.S. AFTER HAVING WEAKENED THEIR RELATIONS WITH THEIR ALLIES AMONG SOCIALIST STATE."

5. JOSEPH KHURI WRITES IN PRO-SYRIAN "ASH-SHA'RQ" (JUNE 25): "AS SOON AS SYRIAN FONMIN KHADDAM SET FOOT IN WASHINGTON, HE SAID" 'SYRIA IS DETERMINED TO RECOVER

GOLAN'. WHY WAS HE IN SUCH A HURRY TO STATE POSITION?
IT WAS SO THAT WHITE HOUSE AND U.S. MEDIA ... WOULD
UNDERSTAND PROPER FRAMEWORK OF DISCUSSION ... AND THAT
SYRIA WOULD NEVER ABANDON ANY OF GOLAN STEP-BY-STEP."

6. PRO-IRAQI WEEKLY "AD-DUSTUR" WRITES (JUNE 23): "REAL
PURPOSE OF KHADDAM'S VISIT IS TO CONTINUE DIALOGUE WITH
U.S. AND TO LEARN ISRAELI INTENTIONS IN GOLAN FOLLOWING SYRIA'S
EXTENSION OF MANDATE OF U.N. FORCES FOR SIX MORE MONTHS.
DIPLOMATIC SOURCES BELIEVE THAT, IF SYRIAN FONMIN RECEIVES
FINAL AND POSITIVE REPLY FROM HIS AMERICAN COLLEAGUE
KISSINGER RE ISRAEL'S INTENTIONS, SYRIA WILL AGREE TO
POLICY OF PARTIAL SETTLEMENTS AND AMERICAN SECRETARY WILL
RESUME HIS DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN AREA."

7. PLO WEEKLY ORGAN "FILASTIN ATH-THAWRA" WRITES (JUNE 22):
"ZIONIST LABOR PARTY MAP ... IS BEACON REVEALING
GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF U.S.-SPONSORED PARTIAL SETTLEMENT....
ZIONIST LABOR PARTY, WHICH HAS FIRST AND LAST WORD IN ISRAEL,
SEES NO RELATION BETWEEN PARTIAL SETTLEMENT IN SINAI AND
FULL WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ARAB CONCESSIONS."
GODLEY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, LAND SETTLEMENT, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BEIRUT08080
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750221-0405
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750615/aaaaanac.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAR 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACTION - U.S. MIDEAST DIPLOMACY
TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, XF, LE, IS, US
To: USIA STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006